

**REMARKS**

This Amendment is in response to the August 24, 2005 Office Action in the above-referenced patent application. Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 26 and the indicated allowability of claims 4, 7, 11, 12, 16, 18, 19, and 22-24. This Amendment amends claims 1, 4, 6, 8, 11, 14, 18, 19, 21, 22, and 24 and cancels claims 7 and 16.

Claim 6 and 14 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph for indefiniteness. Claims 6 and 14 are further indicated as containing allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the rejected base claims, independent claims 1 and 8 and intervening claims 5 and 13, respectively, and if the indefiniteness rejections under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, are corrected. In response, Applicant has rewritten claim 6 in independent form to include the limitations of independent claim 1 and intervening claim 5. Additionally, claim 6 was amended to identify that the outer side of the ring member is substantially annular as suggested by the Examiner to correct the indefiniteness rejection of this claim. Claim 14 was similarly rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of independent claim 8 and intervening claim 13 and to attend to the indefiniteness rejection of this claim. Accordingly, claims 6 and 14, and 15 which depends from claim 14, should now be in condition for allowance and such is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 5, 8-10, 13, 17, 20, 21, and 25 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) for anticipation by United States Patent No. 6,896,479 to Svihla et al. The rejection of these claims is now moot in view of the foregoing amendments. In the foregoing amendments, independent claim 1 was amended to include the indicated allowable subject matter from claim 7, now cancelled. Claim 4 was indicated as containing allowable subject matter and has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of independent claim 1. Independent claim 8 was amended in a similar manner to independent claim 1 to include the indicated allowable subject matter from claim 16, now cancelled. Claim 11 was indicated as containing allowable subject matter and has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of independent claim 8. It is noted that claim 4 was amended in a similar manner to claim 11 to identify the first engagement tab is formed as a hook with a prong and does not include the intervening limitations in claim 2 in view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter set forth in claim 11 which depends directly from independent claim 8. Moreover, in the foregoing amendments, claims 18 and 19 have also

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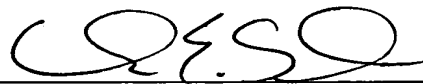
been rewritten in independent form to each include the limitations of independent claim 8. Both of these claims were indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Independent claim 21 was amended in a similar manner to independent claims 1 and 8, discussed previously. Claim 22 was rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of independent claim 21. Claim 22 was indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Finally, claim 24 was rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of independent claim 21 and was also indicated in the Office Action as containing allowable subject matter.

In view of the foregoing, pending claims 1-6, 8-15, and 17-25 should now be in condition for allowance in addition to allowed independent claim 26 and such is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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